

File Number: H.F. 4140
Version: As introduced

Date: March 21, 2018

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Subject: Increasing penalties for patrons of prostitutes

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Overview

This bill increases the penalty for patrons of prostitutes by increasing the minimum fine for first offenders and creating a felony offense for repeat offenders.

Section

- 1 General prostitution crimes; penalties for patrons.** Increases the minimum fine from \$500 to \$750 for the first offense of being the patron of a prostitute. Removes an existing provision that enhances some misdemeanor offenses to a gross misdemeanor.
- 2 Penalties for patrons; repeat offenders.** Creates a felony offense for a person convicted of being the patron of a prostitute within ten years of a prior conviction. Requires an offender to receive a minimum fine of \$3,000 and mandatory community work service of 100 hours unless the court finds that community work service is not feasible or appropriate under the circumstances of the case.
- 3 Community service in lieu of minimum fine.** Includes the minimum fine of \$3,000 for repeat offenders in the list of fines that can be converted to community work service if the court finds that the offender is indigent or payment of the fine would create undue hardship for the person or that person's immediate family.